<u>REMARKS</u>

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

To place the subject application in better form, the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. Also, a new title and abstract are presented in accordance with preferred practice. No new matter has been added by these changes.

Claims 19-30 are presented for consideration in lieu of claims 1-18, which have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 19 and 25 are independent. Support for these claims can be found in the original application, as filed. For example, the Examiner's attention is directed to the discussion in the subject specification on page 14, line 11, to page 17, line 9, and on page 27, line 13, to page 31, line 2, with respect to the discussion of Figures 4-6 and 13-16. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action.

By separate paper, Applicant has submitted a corrected Figure 7, which has been labeled "PRIOR ART," as required by the Examiner. In addition, Applicant requests approval to correct Figures 10A and 17A in order to delete the embedded hyperlink. In this regard, Applicant submits that the prohibition against embedded hyperlinks and browser-executable codes as set forth in MPEP § 608.01 is directed to use in the specification, which is text readable upon patenting, rather in the drawing, which is not text readable. Favorable consideration is requested.

The specification was objected to due to informalities. The specification has been amended to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner, as well as other informalities.

Applicant submits, therefore, that this objection has been overcome. Such favorable indication is requested.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner asserted that certain recitations in these claims did not have proper antecedent basis and further asserted that it was unclear as to which claims claims 10-17 did or did not depend from. Claims 1-18 having been canceled, this rejection has become moot and should be withdrawn. Nevertheless, the Examiner's comments were taken into consideration when presenting claims 19-30.

Turning now to the art rejections, claims 10-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by either U.S. Patent No. 6,128,403 to Ozaki or Applicant's background statement. Claims 10-16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,629,009 to Holder. Claims 1-7 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. patent application publication number 2003/0025732 to Prichard. Claims 1-7 and 9 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the Holder patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,711,731 to Weiss. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the Holder patent in view of the Weiss patent, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,548 to Suzuki. Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the Holder patent as applied above, and further in view of the Suzuki patent. Applicant submits that the cited art, whether taken individually or in combination, does not teach many features of the present invention, as previously recited in claims 1-18. Therefore, these rejections are respectfully traversed. In addition, Applicant

submits that independent claims 19 and 25, for example, as presented, amplify the distinctions between the present invention and the cited art.

In one aspect of the present invention, independent claim 19 recites an information processing apparatus used for an exposure system. The apparatus includes a generation unit which generates a parameter file described in a markup language based on a parameter used in the exposure system, the parameter file including information for displaying an image concerning at least one of a shot layout and a sample shot for an exposure process to be performed by the exposure system, and a program for editing the image, and a providing unit which provides the parameter file to another information processing apparatus out of the exposure system.

In another aspect of the present invention, independent claim 25 recites an information processing method used for an exposure system. The method includes steps of generating a parameter file described in a markup language based on a parameter used in the exposure system, the parameter file including information for displaying an image concerning at least one of a shot layout and a sample shot for an exposure process to be performed by the exposure system, and a program for editing the image, and providing the parameter file to another information processing apparatus out of the exposure system.

Applicant submits that the cited art, whether taken individually or in combination, does not teach or suggest such features of the present invention, as recited in independent claims 19 and 25.

The Ozaki patent relates to a two-dimensional analysis using a wafer map in which an image of the wafer map is classified and displayed on a screen for each item, such as a

manufacturing step, device and inspection. Also, a trend chart is attached in addition to the image of the wafer map.

The Holder patent relates to a system and a method of transmitting instructions to control at least one fabrication machine. Included are a user interface including a series of selectable instructions, selectable machines and at least one graphical input associated with executing selected instructions on at least one selected fabrication machine receiving an indication that the input has been selected. The series of selectable instructions are processed using at least one XML scheme, the processed instructions are transmitted to the at least one fabrication machine and a response is received from that machine indicating whether the processed series of instructions have been executed.

The Prichard publication relates to a system and a method for providing customized, graphical user interfaces and/or screen layouts in computer systems. A Web browser is nested in an application and XML text files are used to describe one or more user interfaces. Source code in the XML files is used to generate the user interface.

The Weiss patent discusses a system for the interconnection of semiconductor fabrication tools (process tools) in a semiconductor fabrication facility by use of a data network and a microprocessor based on an interface (browser) associated with each process tool.

Applicant submits, however, that none of the cited art (including Applicant's background statement) teaches or suggests the salient features of Applicant's present invention, as recited in independent claims 19 and 25, in which a parameter file is generated in a markup language based on a parameter used in an exposure system, wherein the parameter file includes information for

displaying an image concerning one of a shot layout and a sample shot for an exposure process to be performed by the exposure system, and a program for editing the image.
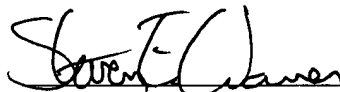
For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 19 and 25, is patentably defined over the cited art.

Dependent claims 20-24 and 26-30 also should be deemed allowable, in their own right, for defining other patentable features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Further individual consideration of these dependent claims is requested.

Applicant further submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010 All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

<div style="text-align:right">

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 10A

```
<?xml version="1.0" standalone="no"?>
<!DOCTYPE svg PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD SVG 1.0//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-SVG-20010904/DTD/svg10.dtd">

<svg id="root" job:mag="1.000000" width="400" height="450" xmlns:job="http://semi.sample.org/job">
  <desc>
    <job:params>
      <job:param id="P1_12345">123.45</job:param>
      <job:param id="P1_12346">12345</job:param>
      <job:param id="P1_12347">1234.5</job:param>
    </job:params>
  </desc>
  <g>
    <path d="M 170.00,346.71  A 149.75,149.75 0 1,1 230.00,346.71 z" style="fill:#AA66EE;
opacity: 0.3"/>
  </g>
  <text x="150" y="380" style=" fill: black;">diameter = 299.5</text>
  <g id="P1" style="display:inline">
  <defs>
    <symbol id="symbol_shot1">
      <rect style="fill: #40DD90; stroke: #EE44CC; stroke-width: 1; opacity: 0.6" width="26.00" height="33.00"/>
    </symbol>
    <symbol id="symbol_Smp1">
      <rect style="pointer-events:none; fill: #404040; stroke: #EE44CC; stroke-width: 1; opacity: 0.6" width="26.00"
height="33.00"/>
    </symbol>
  </defs>
  <g id="S1">
    <use job:row="2" job:clm="1" x="161.00" y="200.00" job:focus="11.50" job:expo="20.00" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1" />
    <use job:row="2" job:clm="2" x="187.00" y="200.00" job:focus="11.50" job:expo="20.00" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1" />
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  </g>
  <text x="190" y="20" style="fill: blue;">Column</text>
  <text x="174" y="40" style="fill: black;">1</text>
  <text x="200" y="40" style="fill: black;">2</text>
  <text x="226" y="40" style="fill: black;">3</text>
</g>
```

FIG. 17A

```
<?xml version="1.0" standalone="no" ?>
<!DOCTYPE svg PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD SVG 1.0//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-SVG-20010904/DTD/svg10.dtd">
<?AdobeSVGViewer save="snapshot"?>

<svg id="root" job:mag="1.000000" width="400" height="450" xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2000/svg"
xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink" xmlns:job="http://semi.sample.org/job">
<desc>
  <job:params>
    <job:param id="P1_12345">123.45</job:param>
    <job:param id="P1_12346">12345</job:param>
    <job:param id="P1_12347">1234.5</job:param>

  </job:params>
</desc>

<g>
<path d="M 170.00,346.71  A 149.75,149.75 0 1,1 230.00,346.71 z" style="fill:#AA66EE;
opacity: 0.3" onclick="wmdown(evt)"/>
</g>
<text x="150" y="380" style="fill: black;">diameter = 299.5</text>
<g id="P1" style="display:inline" job:stepx="26.00" job:stepy="33.00">
<defs>
  <symbol id="symbol_shot1">
    <rect style="fill: #40DD90; stroke: #EE44CC; stroke-width: 1; opacity: 0.6" width="26.00" height="33.00"/>
  </symbol>
</defs>
<g id="S1">
  <use job:row="2" job:clm="1" x="161.00" y="200.00" job:focus="11.50" job:expo="20.00" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1"
onclick="smdown(evt)"/>
  <use job:row="2" job:clm="2" x="187.00" y="200.00" job:focus="11.50" job:expo="20.00" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1"
onclick="smdown(evt)"/>
  <use job:row="2" job:clm="3" x="213.00" y="200.00" job:focus="11.50" job:expo="20.00" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1"
onclick="smdown(evt)"/>
  <use job:row="1" job:clm="1" x="161.00" y="167.00" job:focus="10.00" job:expo="22.20" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1"
onclick="smdown(evt)"/>
  <use job:row="1" job:clm="2" x="187.00" y="167.00" job:focus="10.00" job:expo="22.20" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1"
onclick="smdown(evt)"/>
  <use job:row="1" job:clm="3" x="213.00" y="167.00" job:focus="10.00" job:expo="22.20" xlink:href= "#symbol_shot1"
onclick="smdown(evt)"/>
</g>
</g>
```